

Essential Questions for Gardner's *Grendel*

Identity

What gives a person his or her identity?

What happens when identities collide?

If Language shapes identity, how does it do so?

What is the relationship between multiple critical lenses and our self?

Truth

What is truth? Is it absolute or relative?

What is the relationship between truth and language? Does language undermine truth?

How willing are we to embrace truth?

What if a "truth" causes us to violate an essential element of our self-concept?

Good and Evil

What are good and evil? Is evil an intrinsic element of human nature?

What happens when moral systems collide?

What is the difference between sin and evil?

How does a narrative point of view affect the presentation of good and evil?